

SPECIAL THANKS TO

WHO READS THE CREDIT PAGE ANYWAYS ??

TRANSLATOR: L-SHINY
CLEANER: L-DRAGON
TYPESET: ULTIMAS
GG: DORGE



ORINJIDO SCANS

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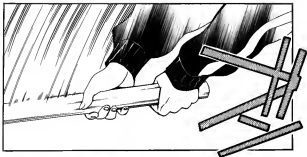


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ORINJIDO SCANS

CHAPTER 7: MINO POTTERY AND
THE SHIRAKAWA-GO VILLAGE









THERE,
THERE. HOW
ABOUT WE START
WITH A LIGHTER
WEIGHT WOODEN
SWORD.

I'M NOT
IMPROVING
AT ALL!!
MY HEAD
HURTS!!



YOU
TWO REALLY
WON'T BE ABLE
TO SWING A
KATANA LIKE
THAT, YOU
KNOW.

ARE
TOO!

MY
SWORD
HURTS
SOUL.



MY
HANDS HAVE
BURNED,
TOO...

OUCH.



YOU

WON'T
BE ABLE
TO SLICE
ANYONE.







GC COMMENTS: WHY THE HELL NOT







SHE DID
IT PERFECTLY,
DIDN'T SHE?

KIKON-NE
"USHIRO."

YEAH.



SHE'S ABLE
TO DO THEM
WITHOUT BEING
TAUGHT.

THE SAME
GOES FOR
THE WAY SHE
CARRIES HER
BODY AND
DANGLES A
KATANA.



SHE
ONLY SAW
IT ONCE,
BUT...



AND THE
TIMING OF
HER HASTE
TURN.

THE WAY
SHE RAISED
HER LEFT
KNEE.









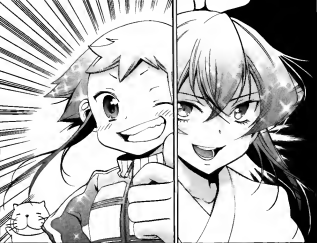






















ORIGINALLY...
BELONGED
TO OUR KENDO
CLUB.

THE
DOJO
YOU'RE
USING...



W-WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING??

STOP
IT!!



AS
A RESULT,
WE'RE STUCK
USING A CRAMPED
SPACE WITH THE
GIRLS...

O...
OH...

THAT DOJO
IN YOUR DISCUSS
RESEMBLED IT
ON MY OWN
ACCORD AND
STOLE IT FROM
UNDER US



ACCORDING TO THE RUMORS, ANYWAY.

GUARDELING WITH THE KENDO CLUB AND ULTIMATELY RESORTING TO VIOLENCE AGAINST THE CAPTAIN.

OSAMI FROM THE IAI DO CLUB WAS PROBLEMATIC.

AH...

PLEASE BE EXTRA CAREFUL, PRESIDENT.



AS THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT, INVESTIGATING THAT WAS ALSO MY GOAL!!

THAT'S RIGHT, I REMEMBER NOW!!



GOING AND TAKING ADVANTAGE OF OUR KINDNESS...

QUIT YOUR WHINING.

OWOW-OWOW!

I, HASEGAWA UMUKO, A MEMBER OF THIS IAI DO CLUB AND THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT, WON'T ALLOW IT!!

HEY, KENDO CLUB! DON'T CAUSE ANY MORE TROUBLE!!











THEN
I'LL BE
YOUR OP-
PONENT.



IF YOU
HAVE BUSI-
NESS WITH
THE JADO
CLUB.



BRING
IT.













AT ONE POINT, MY BROTHER'S BEST FRIEND ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.

YOU WILL BE AT RISK IF YOU DO.

...BUT WHY...

IT WAS DUE TO ANXIETY OVER HIS ENTRANCE EXAMS OR SOMETHING SIMILAR...



OR BEING DRAWN INTO ANOTHER WORLD...

YOU COULD THINK OF IT AS BEING CLOTHED IN A DARK... SINISTER AIR...

IT WAS... THE SAME SORT OF FEELING YOU GET FROM OGSAMI.



STOP SCREAMING AROUND. WHAT SORT OF ARBITRARY—

SORRY, BUT I WANT TO USE THIS DOJO.



OGSAMI.

WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT YOU TELLING US TO GET OUT?



KEEPING AWAY FROM PEOPLE LIKE THAT IS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD.



PLEASE



I WANT A
PLACE WHERE
I CAN SWING
A KATANA.



FROM
THE WAY HE
LOOKED TODAY,
THAT DOESN'T
SEEM TO BE
THE CASE AT
ALL.

AFTER THAT,
HE QUIT
THE SAIDO
CLUB. AND I
FIGURED HE
HAD ACHIEVED
HIS GOAL. BUT...

I DIDN'T KNOW
WHAT HIS GOAL
WAS, BUT... I
UNDERSTOOD
AT LEAST
THAT GETTING
INVOLVED
WITH HIM WAS
DANGEROUS.





DID HE

FIND SOMETHING...?



STILL...

WHY WOULD HE RETURN TO THE CLUST?



Ah... Ah...



YOUR HOUSE IS IN THE OTHER DIRECTION, ISN'T IT.

WHY DID YOU COME THIS WAY?



Ah... Ah...



Ah... Ah...

OKAMOTO





I'M
SORRY FOR
FOLLOWING
YOU...

I'VE BEEN
WORRIED ABOUT
YOUR STATE OF
MIND FOR A WHILE
NOW, SONPAL...



IT'S AS
IF YOU'RE
GONNA TO BE
KILLED...

A
AND

YOU'VE
HAD A
SORT OF
BLOODLUST
SURROUNDING
YOU THIS
WILE TIME...

BUT EVEN
THOUGH YOU
AREN'T DOING
24 KATA,



JUST...
WHAT IS
IT...?

KEPT IT
IN CHECK
-I?



COOL...



AND I'D
ALWAYS KEPT
IT IN CHECK,
TOO.

...IT'S BE-
CAUSE OF
THAT LOT
FROM THE
KENDO
CLUB.

WHAT
AWAITS THEM
IS A CURSED
KATANA.

THE
JOURNEY
TO Gifu...



IF SO, IS IT
SOMETHING
WHICH CAN BE
UNDONE?



IS WHAT
COILS AROUND
OSAMI-SENPAI
TRULY THAT
KATANA'S
CURSE?



THE
KEY
LIES

IN THE
ABILITY
TO HEAR
THE KA-
TANA'S
VOICE.

IN
OKAMOTO
HARU...

STRAIGHT TO THE POINT! SWORD SEMINAR -IAI-

MISCELLANEOUS INFO ON IAI AND JAPANESE
SWORDS | NUMBER 3 IS "THE HISTORY
OF JAPANESE SWORDS, PART 2"



FROM A WEAPON
TO A SYMBOL

OOISHI: WOAH, THAT'S A NEW IPAD,
ISN'T IT? IS IT YOURS, HEADMASTER?

HEADMASTER: INDEED. JEALOUS, ARE WE?

OOISHI: EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE AN IAI TEACHER, YOU'RE
SURPRISINGLY FOND OF NEW THINGS, HUH.

HEADMASTER: WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? THIS IS THE SAME
AS THE SAMURAI'S KATANA HAVING BECOME SHORTER.

OOISHI: HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

HEADMASTER: YOU CAN CARRY A LAPTOP, BUT THEY'RE
QUITE HEAVY AND UNWIELDY, AND, IN MY CASE, I HAD NO
CHOICE BUT TO TAKE ONE WITH ME WHEN IT WAS INDISPEN-
SABLE. HOWEVER, I CAN CARRY THIS NORMALLY, IT'S EASY
TO TAKE OUT, EVEN ON THE TRAIN, I CAN USE IT TO SHOW
DATA TO PEOPLE, AND IT'S VERY CONVENIENT WHEN I SUD-
DENLY WANT TO LOOK UP SOMETHING.



OOISHI: THAT'S TRUE~

HEADMASTER: IT WAS THE SAME IN THE SENGOKU ERA. DISPUTES
OCCURRED NOT JUST ON THE BATTLEFIELD, BUT ALSO IN CITIES
AND TOWNS. IT WAS A WORLD WHERE YOU DIDN'T KNOW WHEN YOU
WOULD BE ATTACKED NEXT. FOR THAT REASON, THEY ALWAYS
WORE A SHORT SWORD THAT COULD BE DRAWN AT ANY TIME.

OOISHI: I SEE. SO YOU'RE SAYING THAT THIS IS THE SENGOKU ERA
OF BUSINESS.

HEADMASTER: ...I DON'T REALLY GET WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, BUT
WHATEVER. AFTER THE BATTLE OF SEKIGAHARA, THERE WAS AN ERA
OF PEACE ESTABLISHED BY THE TOKUGAWA SHOGUNATE AND
PRACTICAL USE OF KATANAS BECAME NEAR-NONEXISTANT. EVEN
SO, THE STYLE OF SAMURAI WHO CARRIED BOTH A KATANA AND A
SHORT SWORD CONTINUED. IN OTHER WORDS, THEY WORE KATANA
FOR PROTECTION PURPOSES AND AS A SYMBOL TO DENOTE SAM-
URAI STATUS. SUBSEQUENTLY, YOU COULD SAY THAT THE KATANA'S
APPEARANCE HAVING REMAINED LARGELY UNCHANGED TO THIS DAY
IS BECAUSE THERE WAS NO LONGER A NEED TO REVISE IT, AS IT
WASN'T USED IN ACTUAL COMBAT ANYMORE.



OOISHI: SO WITHOUT ANY FIGHTING, IAI AND OTHER SWORD TECHNIQUES WENT INTO DECLINE, RIGHT?

HEADMASTER: ON THE CONTRARY, THEY BECAME QUITE POPULAR.

OOISHI: WHY'S THAT?

HEADMASTER: I BELIEVE THAT SAKURAI CAME TO REGARD THEM MORE AS A MEANS OF TRAINING THEIR MINDS AND BODIES THAN A WAY TO POLISH THEIR SKILLS TO CUT PEOPLE FOR ACTUAL COMBAT. FOR THAT VERY REASON, THE STUDY OF IAI AND OTHER SWORD TECHNIQUES CONTINUED THROUGH THE EDO ERA, AND SOME SEVERAL HUNDRED SCHOOLS WERE BORN.

OOISHI: OH, MAKES SENSE.

HEADMASTER: AS WAS MENTIONED BEFORE, THE IAI CREATED BY FOUNDER HAYASHIZAKI JINSUKE WAS A TECHNIQUE OF DRAWING OUT THE LONG SWORD HUNG FROM THE LEFT HIP, BLADE-DOWN. HOWEVER, THE SEVENTH HEAD TO TAKE OVER THE TEACHINGS OF THE HAYASHIZAKI MUSEN-RYU, A MAN NAMED HASEGAWA CHIKARINOSUKE HIDEMOBU, IS SAID TO HAVE CHANGED IT IN THE KYOHO ERA (1716-1736) TO A TECHNIQUE OF DRAWING OUT THE KATANA WORK AT THE HIP, BLADE-UP. BY THAT POINT, IT HAD BEEN MORE THAN 100 YEARS SINCE THE PEACEFUL EDO ERA. THE HASEGAWA BOSHIN-RYU STARTED BY HIDEMOBU WAS THE FOUNDATION OF MODERN-DAY IAI.



OOISHI: SO THEN, THE IAI TECHNIQUES TAUGHT NOWADAYS WEREN'T USED IN ACTUAL COMBAT?

HEADMASTER: DURING THE SMALL SPAN OF THE BAKUMATSU ERA, AND THE UPEHAVALS, BOSHIN WAR, ETC. THEREIN, THERE WERE TIMES WHEN JAPANESE SWORDS WERE USED TO FIGHT. HOWEVER, AFTER THE MEIJI RESTORATION, A SWORD PROHIBITION WAS PUT IN PLACE AND KATANA BECAME WHOLLY UNNECESSARY. EVEN SO, THE CONTINUANCE OF IAI- AND OTHER SWORD DISCIPLINES, AS WELL AS THEIR BEING TAUGHT EVEN IN THE PRESENT DAY, UNDOUBTEDLY POINT TO THEIR EFFECTIVENESS IN TRAINING THE MIND AND BODY.



OOISHI: TRAINING THE MIND AND BODY, HUH. I'M STILL AWFUL AT IT, BUT I'VE GOT TO WORK HARD AND TRAIN, TOO.

I borrowed the headmaster's iPad, but I don't know how to use it at all...

居合道
デジモイロ
手付遅延修業必
事です

I'm the broom
opener to a
journey.

WHEN IT COMES TO IAI AND DIGITAL STUFF, I STILL HAVE A LOT TO LEARN...

これには、お白蛇さま、





SHŌNEN CHAMPION COMICS

ハルポリッシュ②

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